

In the Specification:

Rewrite the Related Application Data paragraph at page 1, lines 4-5, as follows:

This application is a division of application 09/343,104, filed June 29, 1999, now abandoned in favor of continuation application 10/764,430, filed January 23, 2004 the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

Rewrite the paragraph at page 7, lines 22-25 as follows:

(Details of the preferred encoding techniques are further detailed in ~~co-pending applications 09/XXX,XXX 09/293,601~~, filed April 15, 1999, entitled METHODS AND DEVICES FOR RECOGNIZING BANKNOTES AND RESPONDING ACCORDINGLY (now patent 6,427,020), 09/127,502, filed July 31, 1998 (now patent 6,345,104), and patent 5,862,260.)

Rewrite the paragraph at page 15, lines 16-27 as follows:

The basic physics and very low level analog electronic operation of ink-jet printers (sometimes termed bubble-jet printers) are ideally suited to support very-light-tint background digital watermarking on any form of substrate.

(Watermarking through apparent “tinting” of substrates is discussed in ~~co-pending~~ application 09/127,502, now patent 6,345,104.) In general, the statement, “if you can print it with an ink jet printer, you can watermark it” is largely accurate, even for (perhaps especially for) simple text documents. Indeed, there is a degree of flexibility and control in the ink-jet printing realm that is not as generally available in more traditional printing technologies, such as commercial offset printing and other plate-based technologies. (This is not to say that ink-jet has better quality than plate-based technologies; it has more to do with the statistics of ink droplets than anything else.) Heavier tint backgrounds are possible as well,

where the continuum ranges from very light background tinting, where the casual observer will see “white paper,” all the way through heavily inked patterned backgrounds, and photographs themselves, and everything in between.

Rewrite the paragraph at page 30, lines 14-21 as follows:

Credit card or other customer billing information, together with mailing address information, can be stored in a profile on the Bedoop system, and relayed to the transactional web site either automatically when a purchase action is invoked, or after the user affirms that such information should be sent (which affirmation may be signaled by manipulation of the packaging or advertisement in one of the earlier-described modes). Other modes of payment can naturally be employed. (One such alternative is the first-to-redeem electronic money system described in another of the present assignee's patent applications the present assignee's patent application 09/XXX, XXX.)

Rewrite the paragraph at page 41, lines 26-33 as follows:

The present assignee's prior application 09/127,502, filed July 31, 1998 (now patent 6,345,104), shows techniques by which very fine lines can be printed on a medium to slightly change the medium's apparent tint, while also conveying digital data. Commonly-owned application 09/074,034, filed May 6, 1998, details how the contours of printed imagery can be adjusted to convey digital data. (That technique can be applied to printed text characters, as well as the line art imagery particularly considered.) The assignee's patent 5,850,481 details how the surface of paper or other media can be textured to convey optically-detectable binary data. The assignee's patents 5,841,886 and 5,809,160 detail various techniques for steganographically encoding photographs and other imagery.

Rewrite the paragraph at page 45, lines 1-2 as follows:

To provide a comprehensive disclosure without unduly lengthening this specification, applicant incorporates by reference the patents, applications, and publications identified above (except application 10/764,430, the reference to which was added during prosecution of this application).